AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Some electronic messaging systems are capable of sequential, or workflow, distribution of messages, documents, and the like. For instance, many organizations in which [[an]] a number of employees repeatedly perform specialized tasks with respect to documents have systems for electronically circulating the documents. Insurance companies that process insurance claims represent one example of this type of organization. Many insurance companies convert claim forms into computer-displayable documents, which are then sequentially distributed to different departments, each of which performs part of a defined claim adjudication process. These systems include one or a limited number of predefined workflow routes that guide the documents to sequential recipients in the organization. The routes are predefined by the software developer or vendor or are created by a system administrator. In any event, the routes defined in such messaging systems are not capable of being modified or created by users who might wish to sequentially distribute a message to recipients according to a route other than the predefined routes.

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] Figure 2b is [[an]] a graphical illustration of an actual path of a sequentially distributed electronic message;

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] Figure 5 is a graphical representation of one embodiment of a method for executing a sequential route defined by a routing map.[[.]]

Please replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] Note that each client can perform some act with regard to the electronic message before it is sent to the next client. The acts performed by the clients are typically related to the sequential distribution of the electronic message. For example, the user might submit an expense report to client A for approval in step 121. In step 122, the electronic message is then sent to client B in the accounting department. Finally, in step 123, the electronic document is sent to client C, who is responsible for archiving. The point is that the acts performed by the clients or intended recipients do not occur contemporaneously in this example, but instead occur sequentially. However, in other contexts, the user could specify that copies of an electronic message are to be sent to two or more recipients [[a]] at the same time. The routing instructions by which the route of the electronic message is defined can be flexible enough to enable the message to be sent to recipients sequentially, simultaneously, or otherwise.